

Monroe Lake

Program Schedule

on the back!

Website

stateparks.in.gov/2954.htm

E-Newsletter

bit.ly/monroeprograms

Facebook

facebook.com/monroelake

Twitter

@MonroeLake

Monroe Lake Office (Paynetown SRA): 4850 S. State Road 446, Bloomington, IN 47401, 812-837-9546

Monroe Lake Naturalist (Paynetown SRA: Activity Center): Jill Vance, 812-837-9967, jvance@dnr.IN.gov

Campground Reservations (Paynetown SRA): 866-622-6746, CAMP.IN.gov

Lake Monroe General Store and Boat Rental (at Paynetown SRA): 812-837-9909

Four Winds Resort & Marina, Boat Rental (at Fairfax SRA): 812-824-2628, fourwindsresort.com

Lake Monroe Marina and Boat Rental (at Cutright SRA): 812-837-9394, lakemonroemarina.com

Laura Thorne Training, kayaks - SUPs - wind surfing - lessons (at Fairfax SRA): 812-797-4747



Paynetown Activity Center

Open Wed-Mon from 1 to 5 p.m. 812-837-9967

Located next to the Swimming Beach inside Paynetown SRA

Got a question? Ask a Naturalist!

The **Naturalist's Office** is located inside the Activity Center. You can also pick up maps/brochures/flyers or browse our library of field guides and other books.

Live Snakes & Interpretive Exhibits

Check in on our live snakes! We rotate in a new set of wall/shelf exhibits at the beginning of each summer and feature a large selection of taxidermy animals on permanent display.

Hoosier Quest: Explore, Discover, Challenge

You can **collect a unique pin** for each Indiana State Park in *Explore* (each property can often be completed during a single day/weekend visit). Individuals can also earn special patches through both *Discover* and *Challenge*.

Free Fishing Equipment Rental

Renters must be at least 18 years of age with a valid government ID. **Check-out up to 4 sets per person** during open hours; return between 1 and 5 p.m. the next day.

Daily Craft & Coloring Table

We feature a **different craft each day**; most crafts are suitable for ages 5+. Another table is always stocked with crayons and a selection of coloring pages.

Kids' Play Area & Small World Play Station

Puppet stage, board and card games, puzzles, large felt board, picture books, touch table, and **Small World play station** (features rotating set of landscapes with miniature animals and habitat elements).

Jigsaw Puzzle Table

Spend a few minutes or a whole afternoon working on our current jigsaw puzzle (500-1500 piece puzzles designed for older children and adults). A different puzzle is rotated in after each puzzle is completed.

Recycling Center

Recycle your **aluminum cans** with us! Proceeds fund programs, activities, and exhibits. You can also recycle plastic bottles and paper (no food containers).



Paynetown Fossil Dig Love searching for fossils? Check out our Fossil Dig at the **back end of the Overflow Parking Area** at Paynetown SRA! Although rock and fossil collecting is prohibited at Monroe Lake, any rocks and fossils found *in this activity site* can be taken home with you!

Program Schedule MAY 24-31 (on back)

Locations are at PAYNETOWN SRA, unless otherwise noted.

ROVING NATURALIST

One of our naturalists typically walks through the Campground area on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights, as well as on Sunday mornings.

We may have an interesting item to share, a quick game to play, or an invite to an upcoming program. And don't be afraid to ask us your questions!

We offer both drop-in programs (from ___ to ___), where you may arrive at any point during that time period, as well as programs with a specific start time (at ___). **If the program has a specific start time, please make sure you arrive on time or we may start/leave without you!**

Programs listed here are designed for families/individuals. Schools, scouts, and other organized groups should contact the Monroe Lake Naturalist for info on scheduling a private program (minimum 2 weeks notice required).

Friday, May 27

Family Feud: Nature Edition at 8 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

We'll select people from the audience to compete in this "Family Feud" style competition, with new teams stepping to the stage for each round. At the end of the night, we'll have prizes for the team that accumulated the most points! *45 to 60 minutes*

Saturday, May 28

Plaster Cast Sand Sculptures from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: Beach

Drop by to create your own unique sculpture by digging a mold into the beach sand! *The plaster will take some time to dry; finished sculptures can be picked up inside the Activity Center this afternoon between 1 and 5 p.m.*

Turtle Time from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Patio

Drop by to check out our collection of turtle shells, learn how to identify common turtles found in Monroe Lake, and make a simple turtle craft!

Caterpillars and Grassapillars at 8:00 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Learn about some of the prettiest and scariest caterpillars that you may spot this summer – and what butterflies and moths they will become when mature. You can then design and plant your own "grassapiller" to take home. *45 minutes*



Sunday, May 29

Egg Carton Gardens from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Program Location: Activity Center Patio

Before there was a lake here, this area was covered with small family farms. In addition to growing crops for market, families cultivated "kitchen gardens" where they grew a wider variety of food for home use. Learn about some of the foods that these families grew and then plant your own "egg carton" garden to take home. *Supplies are limited – first come first served.*

Asian Clam Picture Frame from 4 to 5 p.m.

Program Location: Beach

Did you know that collecting shells in Indiana State Parks is prohibited? This important rule helps us to protect threatened and endangered mussel species. There's one mussel species in Monroe Lake, however, that we'd be happy to see go away – the non-native invasive Asian Clam! Learn how to recognize this (unfortunately) common mussel, and make a picture frame with its shells to help you remember how to recognize it in the future.

You should allow 15 to 30 minutes to complete this activity; the station will close down promptly at 5 p.m.

Light-Up Lightning Bugs at 8:00 p.m.

Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Did you know that fireflies are the most efficient producers of light in the *whole world*? It's true! Find out what they do with that yellow glow (or orange glow... or green glow... seriously, some glow in different colors!), and make your own lightning bug to take home (with a simple addition – you can even make it glow!). *30 to 45 minutes*



Monday, May 30

Discover, Connect, Explore! at 11:00 a.m.

Program Location: Activity Center Amphitheater

Come and learn about Indiana State Park's Hoosier Quest program! Complete challenges and activities to earn incentives in Discover and Connect, or collect a unique pin from each of our properties in Explore. We'll introduce you to all three programs and help you get started. There's an option for all age levels (yes, adults too!). *30 minutes*

Snake Chat from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

Program Location: Activity Center

We'll have one of our live snakes out for you to see up-close and touch! The naturalist will share info about the snake and answer your snake-related questions. *(Snake Chats are held each Monday during the summer. On some Mondays, we'll also be feeding the snakes!)*